



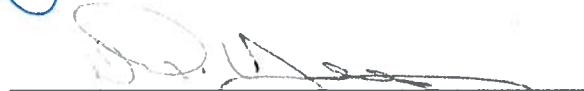
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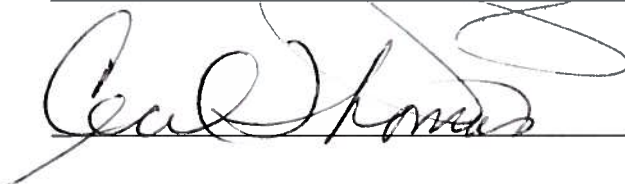
January 2, 2013

MOTION

WE MOVE that the Administration prepare a report outlining the feasibility, costs, potential return on investment, process, and timeline involved with establishing “jump teams” to assist new small businesses with navigating the City permitting and licensing process. The “jump team” should include representatives from major City departments working with small businesses, including Planning & Buildings, Economic Development, and Health (for the restaurant/food industry only), and should include a technology-based solution to allow team members to coordinate their activities.


Councilmember Yvette Simpson













Statement

The current process to open a new business in Cincinnati is confusing and requires separate interactions with several City departments. Creating a team of City employees to contact and work as a unit with small businesses to navigate and streamline this process would provide clarity and allow them to focus on getting their business up and running as quickly as possible.

Jump Teams in Other U.S. Cities

The cities of Chicago and New York recently created similar programs aimed at helping new restaurants navigate city regulations.

The “New Business Acceleration Team” in New York City provides one contact person, a Client Manager, to coordinate regulatory activities for each new restaurant. This Client Manager schedules inspections and arranges for multiple agencies to arrive simultaneously. The program also created rules to

make inspections more efficient, including allowing for “pre-inspections” to identify potential problems before the formal inspections take place.

Chicago used the New York City model to create its “Restaurant Startup Program,” synchronizing visits from various agencies and cutting the number of inspections in half. So far, 120 new restaurants have opened in an average of 25 days under the program.